

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 090175

ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
EA-12 EUR-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 IO-14 L-03  
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-15  
CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 /176 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:PC

APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:TAHALSTED

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P 072249Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 090175

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: APRIL 7 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR

1. NEWS MEDIA CONTINUED TO GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO  
WHAT BALTIMORE SUN DESCRIBED AS "MR. CARTER'S NEUTRON BOMB  
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SOVIET UNION SHOWS RESTRAINT IN ITS CONVENTIONAL AND  
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2. JOHN DILLIN AND DANIEL SOUTHERLAND OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR SAID PRESIDENT'S "ZIGZAG COURSE ON NEUTRON BOMB HAS SPREAD CONFUSION AMONG HIS SUPPORTERS AND INCREASED DANGERS THAT SENATE CONCERNED OVER HIS DEFENSE POLICIES MIGHT REJECT ANY NEW ARMS TREATY WITH SOVIET UNION."

3. RICHARD BURT OF NEW YORK TIMES, BEFORE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT, REPORTED THAT "OFFICIALS SAID THAT MAJOR FACTOR IN MR. CARTER'S THINKING WAS PRESSURE THAT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO BEAR ON WHITE HOUSE BY EUROPEAN ALLIES AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, CRITICAL OF REPORTED DECISION TO END NEUTRON BOMB PROGRAM. 'ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO ENTIRE WESTERN ALLIANCE BECAUSE IT WILL LEAVE NUMBER OF OPTIONS OPEN,' SAID HIGH-RANKING ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL," BURT REPORTED.

4. WALTER PINCUS OF WASHINGTON POST SAID "CARTER DECISION LEAVES IN DOUBT WHETHER NEUTRON WEAPONS WILL EVER BE BUILT BUT AVOIDS CANCELLATION OF PROGRAM." HE QUOTED SOURCES AS SAYING THERE WILL BE NO SPECIFIC PROPOSAL ON ARMS TRADEOFFS MADE TO SOVIET UNION AND NO TIME LIMIT FOR NEUTRON DEFERRAL. PINCUS SAID THESE SOURCES ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT CONTINUED UPGRADING OF SOVIET OR WARSAW PACT FORCES ON NATO FRONT OR REFUSAL BY RUSSIANS TO ENTER INTO ANY PROPOSED FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS COULD TRIGGER ORDER TO BUILD NEUTRON SHELLS. ONE ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL SAID UNCLASSIFIED

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7. BERNARD WEINRAUB OF NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT DEFENSE SECRETARY BROWN, IN TEN-PAGE SECRET MEMO TO PRESIDENT, EXPRESSED HIS WORRY ABOUT SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER. "OUR POLICY IN RECENT YEARS HAS BEEN NOT TO INVEST HEAVILY IN CONTINENTAL AIR DEFENSE ON GROUNDS THAT

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 R

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:WSHINN JR

APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:WSHINN JR

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R 200149Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS STATE 090175

FOL RPT STATE 090175 SENT ACTION GENEVA INFO LONDON, MOSCOW,  
SOFIA & USDEL MBFR VIENNA DTD 07 APR 78

QUOTE: UNCLAS STATE 090175

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, NUCLEAR BOMBS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRODUCTION, NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEPLOYMENT, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**TAGS:** PARM, SOPN, UK, US, (CARTER, JIMMY)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014